

The Cold War

Part 2



Middle East Tension



- Israel claimed by Jews and Arabs
- Britain controlled territory and gave to UN to decide who controls
- Divide Palestine in half; Arabs didn't want this
- Est. of Israel, 1948
 - David Ben Gurion, first leader
- Arab states refused to recognize Israel
- War in 1948 between Israel and other Arab countries: Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, & Iraq
 - Israel wins & gains more land than that UN partition originally gave them

Communism in China



- Communist Victory in China
 - Chiang Kai-Shek: Nationalist leader
 - Mao Zedong: Communist leader
 - The Long March: 1934-35
 - 100,000 communists marched over 6000 miles to northern China
 - Chiang Kai-Shek to Taiwan; Mao takes over
- China becomes a Communist country in 1949

Implications of Communist Victory in China--

- The US continued to recognize Chiang Kai-Shek and his Nationalist government as China's legal govt.
- Chinese seat on UN Security Council continued to be held by Chiang's Taiwan government and remained there until 1971.
- Communism now in China—US still worried Communism would spread

The Korean War (1950-1953)



MAP 2

From: *Eds And Flow*, November 1950-July 1951
Center of Military History, 1950
By Billy C. Mossman

- Japan controlled Korea from 1910-1945
- A Divided Korea
 - North—USSR controlled
 - Kim IL-Sung
 - South—USA controlled
 - Syngman Rhee
 - Division along **38th parallel**
 - General Douglas MacArthur VS. Truman

The Korean War (cont.)

- Public criticism against the war mounted
- Eisenhower now elected in 1952; Nixon VP
 - Stepped up bombing raids on North Korea
 - Threatened use of Atomic Bomb if necessary
- Conflict ended on July 27, 1953



Communism in the US?



- Korean conflict heightened the fears of some that communism was gaining ground in the United States.
 - Senator Joseph McCarthy (Wisconsin) helped fuel these suspicions
 - Defeated Robert LaFollette in 1946 for Senator
 - “I have a list of 215 known Communists working for the State Dept!”
 - Witch hunts/climate of fear and suspicion in govt.
 - Senator Margaret Chase Smith condemns McCarthy (R-Maine)

Nuclear Anxiety



- The Cold War increased American's fear of Soviet use of nuclear weapons
- Hydrogen Bomb
 - In the United States
 - In the Soviet Union
- *How to Survive an Atomic Bomb*

The Arms Race continues...

- **Sputnik**—a Soviet satellite which was launched into orbit around the earth in October 1957
- **NASA**—National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- National Defense Education Act
 - Provided millions of dollars to improve education in science, math, and foreign language



Fighting Communism Abroad



- Stalin dies: June, 1953
- Nikita Khrushchev becomes leader of USSR—January, 1956
 - Condemns Stalin for his ruthless crimes
- **Brinkmanship**-- the ability to get to the verge of war without actually getting involved

Operation Ajax in Iran



- Mohammad Mosaddeq—leader of Iran; Nationalized the British controlled oil fields
- US worried it would hurt oil prices
- **“Operation Ajax”**
 - Replace Mosaddeq with pro-American Shah of Iran, Reza Pahlavi

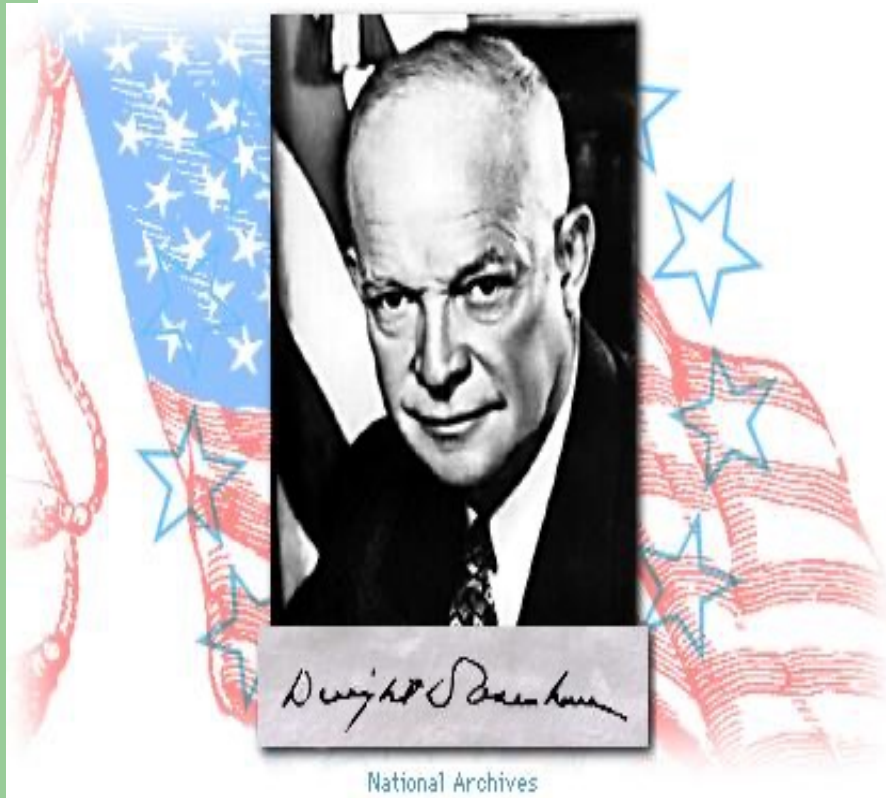
The Suez Crisis

- 1955, American government offered Egypt financial help to build a large dam at Aswan on the Nile River
- Conflict when Egyptian leader also sought help from USSR
- Leader, Gamal Abdel Nasser, seized Suez Canal to fund Aswan Dam
- Problems?
 - Any ship bound for Israel was refused entry



The Suez Canal, a vital link between the East and the West

Conclusion to the Crisis



- Eisenhower supports UN
 - ceasefire
- USSR gains support from Arab nations
- US Counter to Soviet influence:
- **THE EISENHOWER DOCTRINE**
 - The US will support any middle eastern country resisting communism

U-2 Plane Crisis

- Things were going well for the US and USSR
 - They worked to improve their diplomatic relations
 - 1959: US Vice-President Nixon visited USSR
 - Khrushchev visits America
- Paris Conference?
- Diplomacy Crushed
 - WHY? US Spy Plane shot down in USSR
- Khrushchev refuses to attend summit unless he is issued an apology
- Eisenhower promises no more spying missions, but does not apologize

Election of 1960: Kennedy v. Nixon

Democrat:

John F. Kennedy
(Senator,
Massachusetts)

VS.

Republican:

Richard Nixon
(Eisenhower's VP and
former Congressman
from California)



JFK v. Nixon (1960)

● JFK:

- First Catholic to win
 - Al Smith (1928)
- Young, vibrant, new family
- Wealthy, famous family
- Decorated WW2 Vet
- Separation of Church & State!

- Debates & the emerging importance of 'media'

● Nixon:

- Came from poor family from California
 - Worked hard for everything!
- Already VP
- Part of “old guard”

- Who won the debates?

Kennedy and the Cold War

- Tended to follow the policies of Eisenhower
- Did not want to rely solely on the threat of nuclear weapons in deterring Communist expansion
- Flexible Response— Kennedy's idea of dealing with Communist expansion—a range of options in case of international crisis
- Solution:
 - Continued arms buildup
 - Strengthen conventional forces
 - Govt. est. special military units including the Green Berets

More of Kennedy's “Flexible Response”

- Supported nonmilitary options
 - Offered help to developing countries to block Soviet intervention
 - Introduced various programs designed to help developing nations
 - **Peace Corps**—sent volunteers to work for two years in these countries
- Expand Economic Aid to Latin America
 - **Alliance for Progress**—offered billions of dollars in aid to participating nations
 - In exchange for money, the countries were expected to develop democratic reforms and encourage capitalism
- These ideas proved ineffective

Fidel Castro and Cuba

- Wanted to run for office in 1952, but General Fulgencio Batista overthrew the govt in a coup
- Castro organized attacks to overthrow Batista's govt with over 800 men
- New Years 1959: Successful uprising in Cuba led by Fidel Castro
- Castro quickly established a Communist style dictatorship with ties to the USSR



The Bay of Pigs

April, 1961



- CIA sponsored
- Plan to overthrow Castro already in the works when JFK came into office
- *What?* Invasion of Cuba by a group of anti-Castro Cuban refugees
- 1500 rebels came ashore...DISASTER!
- Immediately shot down by Cuban forces

The Berlin Crisis

- Impact of Bay of Pigs
 - Made JFK look weak
- Khrushchev's ultimatum in June 1961—recognize East Germany and remove troops from West Berlin
- Kennedy's commitment and refused to abandon W.B
- Tensions arise...Both sides send more military to Berlin
- Berlin Wall—Khrushchev puts up wall so people won't leave
 - August 1961—November 9, 1989



Berlin...cont.



The Cuban Missile Crisis



- USSR continues to test US commitment to containment
- Soviet offer of nuclear weapons to Cuba
- Kennedy's naval blockade
- "We're eyeball to eyeball and I think the other fellow just blinked"
- Desire to ease tensions

Calming Things Down...

- 1963: US, Soviet Union, England sign **Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty** to end the testing of nuclear bombs in the atmosphere and under water
- “Hot Line”—set up between the US and USSR which was a direct telephone connection that enabled the leaders to communicate during a crisis

Main Idea??

- The Bay of Pigs and the Berlin crisis led to the Cuban missile crisis, after which the United States and Soviet Union worked harder for peace